



# EUROFURENCE 5

July 22 - 25, 1999

Jugenddorf am Müggelsee, Berlin, Germany

# WELCOME TO EUROFURENCE 5

And me mean it! For the fifth time in European history, furies from all over the continent and beyond come together to celebrate, make new friends and have a good time. This year's Eurofurence features a lot of premieres: Two charming Guests Of Honour, a full-time programme of workshops and special interest groups, professional catering, and lots of open-air on-stage events including the first official EF costume contest and live performances by European furry musicians! Since all of these things are new to Eurofurence, please consider them as a test balloon. We have no idea how big the resonance among the audience is going to be, and what kind of reactions we are going to get, and whether they are going to work.

We need to mention another, slightly sadder, premiere: Since the Convention has grown, there was the need for more rules and regulations. We, the organizers, are legally liable for almost everything that happens on our private grounds. Beyond that we took the feedback from previous

Eurofurences very seriously and have tried to write a set of not-too-complicated rules making it easier for everyone to get along with each other during all the different events. We tried hard not to over-regulate the con, but please have at least a brief look at the rules for a specific event (especially the art show and the pet auction) before you take part.

No matter how much work and planning we have put into this year's convention: In the first place it is **you** who makes all of this possible, so thanks a lot for supporting us, and we hope you will thoroughly enjoy your stay!

Cheetah

Jumpy

Tabalon

Berlin, July 1999

## THE CREDITS

We want to thank all the folks who supported us, and without whom we would never have made it (this list is probably incomplete and in random order):

<b>The Core Team:</b>	Stephan Bartels (Jumpy) Andreas Jaekel (Tabalon) Sven Tegethoff (Cheetah)
<b>Our Guests of Honour:</b>	Lisanne Norman Helen Lofting
<b>Artshow Director:</b> <b>Artshow Co-Directors:</b>	Yannick Le Guern (Cougar) Dirk Lang (Lynard) Andreas Schulmayer (H'Lven)
<b>Video Show Director:</b> <b>Video Show Equipment:</b>	Sven Tegethoff (Cheetah) Andreas Jaekel (Tabalon) Stephan Bartels (Jumpy) Yannick Le Guern (Cougar) Thomas Hölzler (AmurUssuri) bmedia
<b>Musical Supervisor:</b> <b>Musical Instruments &amp; Microphones:</b>	Henning Stalke (Redlouts) Henning Stalke (Redlouts) Dario Abattiani (Eisfuchs) Marcus Hess (Fairlight) Stephan Barels (Jumpy) Soulstorm
<b>Stage Equipment and Supervision:</b>	Michael Stüber (Pum) Thomas Hölzler (AmurUssuri)

<b>Con Book:</b>	Sven Tegethoff (Cheetah)
<b>EF5 Logo Artists:</b>	Margaret & Robert Carspecken Thomas Mezösi Andreas Jaekel (Tabalon) Ren Hoek (Thaily) Dario Abatianni (Eisfuchs) Jeroen van den B. (Unicorn) Bart Lagcher (Istondil) Richard T. Matheson (FoxStar) xxxx xxxx (Rasputch) Whitewolf
<b>Costume SIG:</b>	Dario Abatianni (Eisfuchs)
<b>Char. Design SIG:</b>	Andreas Jaekel (Tabalon)
<b>Pet Auction Director:</b>	Gareth Richardson (Zoner)
<b>Big Cat SIG:</b>	Michael Kolbert (Bagheera)
<b>Writer's Workshop:</b>	Lisanne Norman
<b>Roleplaying SIG:</b>	Jens-Lee Ramsey (Kai Silvermane)
<b>Lottery:</b>	Soenke Behrends (DawnWolf)

Special thanks to Joern Schnautz (Pangur) for providing the internet domain name "eurofurence.org", driving, supplying lots of equipment and general support! More thanks go out to all our sponsors, and to everyone we have forgotten to mention here!

# BASIC CON RULES

Most of these rules hopefully just quote the obvious. They're just here so nobody can say we haven't told you:

1. Please follow the directions of the con staff and security people. (You can recognize them by their differently colored badge.) We reserve the right to have offenders removed from the con if they really misbehave.

2. It is not allowed to do anything offending. What is considered offending depends on who's looking. So, if somebody asks you to stop doing something, please do.

3. Certain things should be kept inside your private quarters. Whatever happens in your private quarters lies within your own responsibility, but note rule 2.

4. If you bring a video camera, you are bound by our videotaping policy. You can find it elsewhere in this booklet.

5. If you bring (real) animals, you'll be fully responsible for their actions. Please clean up after your dogs, we need to keep the con site clean.

6. You are responsible for any damage you cause and will be held liable, the con organizers explicitly deny any liabilities for any damage or loss caused or suffered by you.

7. Always wear your badge at the con. It's your proof of membership, security might ask you to show your badge if it's not clearly visible.

The Eurofurence 5 badges are colour coded:

<b>Security and core staff:</b>	RED
<b>Sponsors:</b>	BLUE
<b>Minors:</b>	GREEN
<b>Others:</b>	WHITE

8. Minors will not be permitted to enter the art show or the dealer's den.

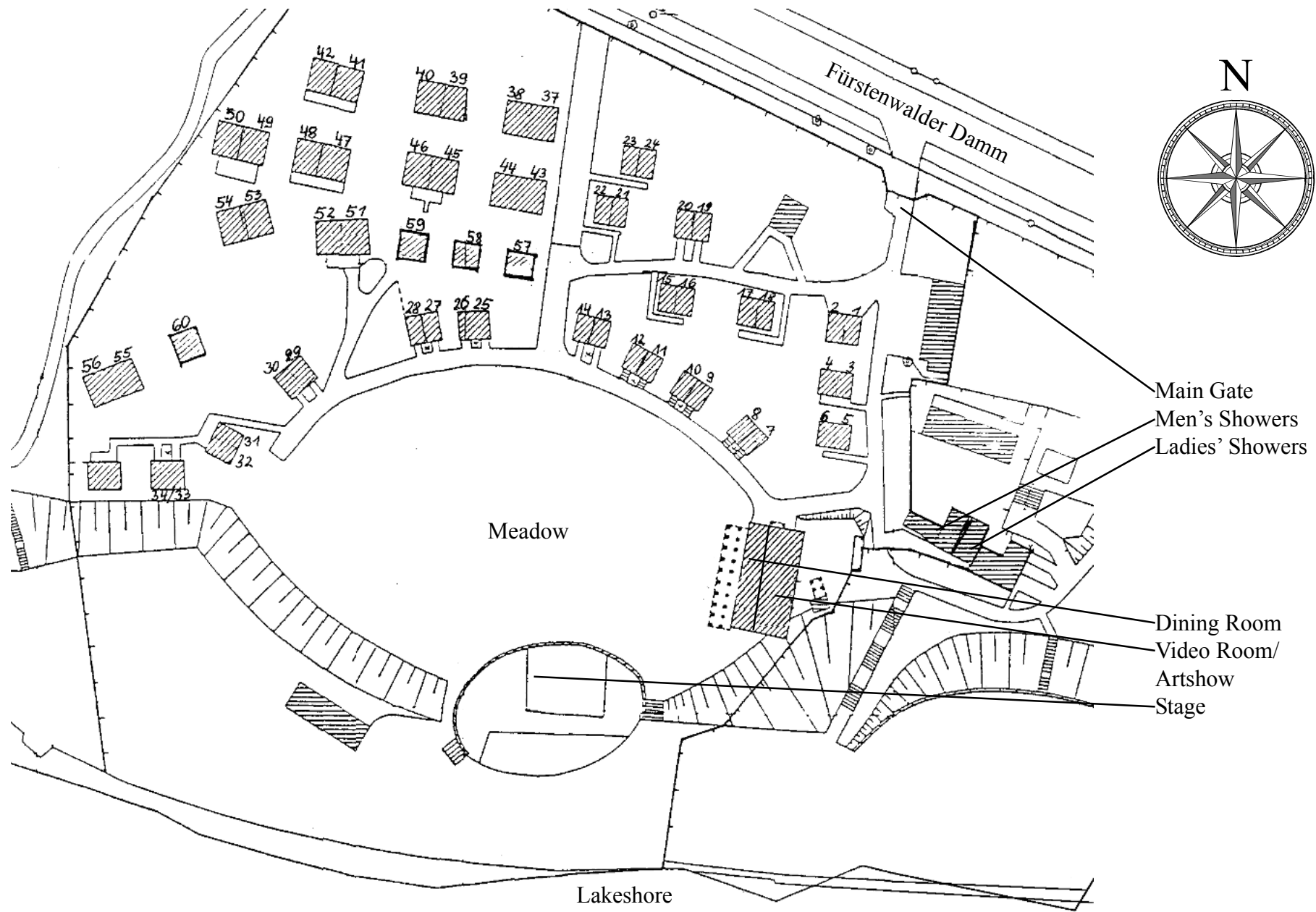
9. Only Sponsors and the Guests of Honour may enter the Sponsor's Lounge.

10. The person who collects the key for his group's cabin is responsible for it and obliged to pay the cost for its replacement if it gets lost.

11. Do not touch anything of the audio, video or stage equipment. Do not touch any of the musical instruments without asking its owner first. Do not climb onto the stage unless you have been invited to do so.

12. The con site is in a water preservation area. Please do not park your car on the con site for longer than necessary for loading and unloading.





# SITE MAP



# TIMETABLE

**Thursday, July 22nd**

**Sunset: 20:14**

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00	23:00
Dining Room					Check-In				Dinner	Check-In				
Video Room											Videoshow			
Stage										Campfire			Lisanne Reads	

**Friday, July 23rd**

**Sunrise: 4:11 / Sunset: 20:13**

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00	23:00
Dining Room	Breakfast				Lunch			Big Cat SIG	Dinner					
Video Room		Roleplaying SIG		Costume SIG						Lisanne Reads	Videoshow			
		Music SIG		Musician's Lounge										
						Dealer's Den								
Stage							Meet the Guests					Pet Auction	Fur Dance	

**Saturday, July 24th**

**Sunrise: 4:13 / Sunset: 20:11**

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00	23:00
Dining Room	Breakfast				Lunch		Writer's Workshop		Barbecue					
Video Room			Artshow						Artshow Sales		Videoshow			
		Musician's Lounge												
						Dealer's Den								
			Character Design SIG											
Stage										Lottery	Costume Contest	Furry Live Music		Costume Awards

**Sunday, July 25th**

**Sunrise: 4:14**

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00	23:00
Dining Room	Breakfast				At 14:00 the convention is officially over. There will be organised post-con activities, watch for announcements!									
Video Room		Check-Out												

**See next page for details!**

# PROGRAMME DETAILS

## Thursday

**Check-In:** If you can read this, then you have probably made it. Congratulations!

**Campfire:** Relax from your trip and talk with other new arrivals, take the chance to get to know each other and make new friends.

**Videoshow:** If you hate fires and mosquitos and would like to exchange them for something equally relaxing, how about watching some of the newest furry movies on the big screen?

**Lisanne Reads:** Our Guest of Honour, Lisanne Norman, is going to read an excerpt from her forthcoming book, "Stronghold Rising" at the campfire. It is not certain if Lisanne is going to feel like reading right after her trip from the UK, so it is possible that she decides to hold the reading on Friday instead.

## Friday

**Roleplaying SIG:** A special interest group for roleplayers. Meet fellow players and discuss character creation, furry characters in roleplaying, and everything else.

**Music SIG:** Redlouts, one of the artists who brought you the "Furry Fantasies II" CD, is going to give a simple introduction into the creation of furry music and home recording using regular PC hard- and software.

**Musician's Lounge:** This is an open meeting point for furry musicians throughout the con. The goal is to have fun and organize a little live performance until saturday evening. Everyone who plays an instrument is invited to take part. It is a place to jam, compose and rehearse without disturbing any of the not-so-musical furs.

**Costume SIG:** A workshop about construction of and acting in furry costumes. No matter if you already have a costume, or if you're just interested in costumes in general: This is the place to get to know like-minded people.

**Dealer's Den:** Buy or sell furry comics, books, t-shirts, music CDs, artwork or anything else.

**Meet the Guests:** Get to know our Guests of Honour, Lisanne Norman and her friend, Helen Lofting. It's a moderated event with an introduction and the possibility to ask questions about anything you can think of. Lisanne will happily sign your book if you bring it along.

**Big Cat SIG:** Bagheera is going to show photos and talk about his first-hand experience with big cats. Everyone interested in wild cats is invited to join, and chat about felines.

**Lisanne Reads:** This is the alternative timeslot for Lisanne's reading of "Stronghold Rising" in case she feels to exhausted to hold a reading on thursday.

**Pet Auction:** Please see separate page, "The Pet Auction".

**Fur Dance:** Let the fur fly! This is the eurofurries dance party. Don't be afraid, we **all** dance just as bad as you. No matter if you have a furry costume or not, please join! The Music will range from the 80s to modern Pop/Rock.

## Saturday

**Artshow:** A large exhibition of artwork by artists from all over the world. You can bid for pieces which strike your fancy, the highest bidder by the end of the exhibition wins. A leaflet with detailed rules and explanations will be available in the artshow room.

**Character Design SIG:** A special interest group for artists and soon-to-be artists and figuring out how to draw your favourite furry character.

**Writer's Workshop:** Take the chance and learn directly from Lisanne Norman how she puts that special magic into her stories, and how you can improve your writing skills.

**Barbecue:** The carnivores' dinner!

**Lottery:** Tickets will be sold throughout the day.

**Artshow Sales:** If you are a winning bidder on any piece of artwork or the owner of a piece that has been bid for, please come in time to complete your deal! The artshow has to be dismantled quickly to make room for the video show, so we're tight on time.

**Costume Contest:** Now it's your chance! Present your costume on stage, and let the audience decide who is the best of fursuiters this year! The awards will be handed over right after the Live Music Event.

**Furry Live Music:** Furry musicians are going to perform furry music partly known from the "Furry Fantasies II" CD, but also new and previously unheard music and whatever else will be the result of two days of creativity in the Musician's Lounge.

## Sunday

**Check-Out:** Unfortunately, we need to move out of the cabins right after breakfast. The con site needs to be clean and tidy until 14:00.

**Post-Con-Activities:** It's sad but unavoidable: Eurofurence ends officially at 14:00. Since the day is still long, and many people are going to stay a day longer or two, there will probably be some organised excursions to the Berlin Zoo, Leuzinger's Private Big Cat Sanctuary, the IMAX Cinema or similar. Watch the announcements on the messageboard!





# THE PET AUCTION

If you've never been to any of the bigger furry cons before, you might ask yourself "What is a pet auction"?

The pet auction is a harmless game where furies can "sell" themselves as "pets" looking for a new home, and offering a certain service to their potential new masters. They try to present themselves in the best possible light, trying to get the highest bids, because they are *good* pets, and want a *good* home!

The pets present themselves and what they offer to do on stage, while the audience places bids on them. The highest bidder wins, and the pet owes him the service he offered.

You can offer something as harmless or as naughty as you like, as long as you stick to the rules. There are no obligations beyond what the pet has offered. Here are some examples for possible offers: A backrub, a dance at the furdance ... or, if you're of a more adventurous kind, maybe walking around on a leash for an hour or two?

## The Rules

1. Your service may not be explicitly sexual or illegal by german laws.
2. Bidders in the Auction have to pay for their pets immediately in cash. Only DM will be accepted. This is a game, there is no binding contract between pet and master.
3. All services have to be performed in public.
4. The money we raise will be used to help financing the con. We are expecting a deficit, but that depends on the number of people who spontaneously show up at the con. If the con does not need any more funding to break even, the money will be donated for charity.

If you want to take part, or if you are still unsure and have some more questions, please approach Zoner or Akeela, and they'll be happy to explain everything to you.



**EuroFurence V**

# LISANNE NORMAN

Lisanne has always been a writer by dedication, starting to write when she was 8 "because I couldn't find enough of the books I liked to read", she says. When she was 16, she had to abandon her novel about martians visiting Earth to form a rock band, because America had just landed on the moon and the rest of the solar system suddenly seemed to have moved a lot closer. Space travel was no longer a myth, and travelling to the other planets of our solar system did not seem to be science-fiction any longer. Trying to go further away from earth, out into the depths of space she had finished her first trilogy by the time she was 21. "A lost world clone, nothing special", she claims.

Lisanne had left school at 17 to study the art of jewellery design in the tradition of her family, but after two years she gave up and began a teaching course during which there was little time left for her to pursue her writing talent. She worked as a teacher for six years until she broke up with her first husband. She moved from Glasgow to Norwich, where she still lives today, meeting her second husband, finally having more time and freedom to write again. She became an active member of "The Vikings" re-enactment group, turning into an expert in swordfighting and archery. During the 18 years in Norwich she had her son and built a new life.

Around 1979, her cat inspired Lisanne to write a short story about a black cat, walking through snow. This short story eventually grew into a full-fledged science-fiction novel. Two of her friends, who believed in Lisanne's true talents, finally nagged her enough to finish the book. This book became her breakthrough as a professional writer. Its name was "Turning Point" and it was published by DAW books in 1993. And this was only the beginning. What began as a simple, action-loaded love story between a young woman and an anthropomorphic feline grew into a highly complex science fiction saga in five books and still no end in sight: The Scholan Alliance Series. Until now, the series consists of: Turning Point (1993), Fortune's Wheel (1995), Fire

Margins (1996), Razor's Edge (1997) and Dark Nadir (1998). Lisanne is currently working full force to get the sixth book, called "Stronghold Rising", finished in time for release in 2000.

Beyond the Scholan Alliance books, Lisanne has also been working on some short stories for several anthologies like "The Jewel and the Daemon" for Martin Greenberg and Larry Seagriff's "Battle Magic" and "The Wild Hunt" for an Anthology called "Merlin" which is due out in late 1999. In 2000 the second Mouse story "To Catch a Thief" is going to appear in Martin Greenberg and Larry Seagriff's anthology called "Spell Fantastic".

Lisanne has a wide and ever growing span of interests. Learning is an on-going experience for her. Her writing has taken her down many an interesting thoroughfare and alley of research. Her main interests are in paleontology, ancient civilizations, particularly the Minoans and Ancient Egyptians, and the history of the Old testament times, which she studied at college. The Minoan culture forms a basis for a lot of the Scholan buildings and their love of murals in their homes. And the climate of Crete, too, which she describes as "absolute heaven at 100 degrees in the shade and no humidity!"

Some of the ongoing interests she studies while working on the Scholan Alliance books are genetics, the workings of the human mind, how memories are stored and accessed, how religions evolve to fulfill the needs of the community to which they belong, and of course, the care, developmental stages and behaviour of cats, both large and small.

Unfortunately, she suffers from a spinal problem, landing her permanently in a wheelchair some years ago. She has no intention to slow down, however and her friends from The Vikings have already begun plans to transform her scooter into a battle wagon, complete with scythes on the wheels.



Cheetah, Cougar and Lisanne at Confurence 9

She loves films and her favourite action heroes are Arnold Schwarzenegger, Jean Claude van Damme, Steven Segal, Harrison Ford and Sean Connery.

Lisanne has been an active British SF fan since 1977, being one of the very fans who made the dream of being an SF writer come true. She has been a congoer ever since, and has been invited to conventions all over the world, like: Confurence 9 (1998), Eurofurence 5 (Hah!) and Paragon (2001).



NO WAIT!!  
WE'RE GETTING T-SHIRTS!!



# VIDEOTAPING POLICY

We know that too many rules can ruin the fun, but sometimes you don't have a choice.

Generally, we appreciate it if you want to bring your video camera and film the event! Unfortunately, some trouble about last year's con video and the resulting flames made it clear that it is possible to set some rules about videotaping this year:

- To prevent further trouble and end the debate about unwanted publication of material by third parties, there will be a centrally produced official Eurofurence Highlights Video similar to those from Confurence or other cons.
- We reserve the right to deny filming rights to overzealous cameramen if guests should feel harrassed by them.
- We also reserve all publishing rights on all video recordings made on Eurofurence grounds outside of private quarters.

Eurofurence legally is a private meeting on private property. That gives the organizers the domestic authority and the legal right to enforce the two latter rules. We put up these rules for the following reasons:

- We want to prevent uncontrolled access of the media to recordings of con events. Some guests are very afraid of material depicting them in embarrassing situations showing up on TV without their approval.
- Unlike others, the EF organization team has the complete address database of all Eurofurence members. That means we can contact all people portrayed on video for approval before anything gets published.
- We want to prevent anybody from producing an "official" video which damages the reputation of Eurofurence, or at least we want that to be our own fault. (Be it because of the way it views the con or the technical quality of the video. Don't panic, please read on.)
- Quite a significant number of EF4 members have complained to us about obstrusive video f i l m i n g .

Furthermore, video recordings in the artshow room require special permission and must be supervised by qualified con staff. Closeups of individual pieces of artwork are only allowed with explicit permission from the artists. These rules serve the protection of the artists' copyright.

## Please, don't panic!

We surely will not be picky about permissions to publish video material. We also won't force anybody to hand out his videotapes for the official video. And we also do not care to who you copy or show your recordings privately. The only thing we insist on is that you ask us before publishing anything of your material which was taped on the con outside of anyone's private quarters.

We would like to ask everyone to give us a copy of their Eurofurence recordings. This is of course not an obligation! We just believe, that it would be great if we could get as much video material as possible for the official con video.

If you have a video camera, don't be discouraged: Bring it to the con, and videotape whatever you like, as long as nobody feels personally harrassed. The more good recordings we get, the better the highlights video is going to be. Everyone who feels like it and has the possibilities is invited to visit us here in Berlin and help with editing. The official highlights tape will not be sold for profit.

Again, I want to emphasize: The point of all this is not censorship of content or the exertion of power, just for fun. The point is to put the problem of obstrusive video recordings, unwanted publications, and violations of personal rights to an end, and to keep control over the presence of Eurofurence in the media **before** it becomes a problem. After all, it's each of us organizers who are legally responsible and possibly risking our heads.

Beyond that, we believe that the outcome will be significantly cooler if all video filmers work **together**. Just think of all the good material that usually disappears somewhere in a dark, dusty desk drawer, never to be seen again.

If you want to contribute your recordings to the con video, please contact Sven "Cheetah" Tegethoff during the con. Depending on how much footage you have it can be possible to make a digital copy of it on the con, or right after the con on sunday.

And since many people have asked us: No, the video will not be assembled by the same people like last year.





# THE VIDEO SHOW

To escape the heat of the day, the video show has been moved further into the evening this year: The show starts at 20:00 each night. We have tried to move the most important films into timeslots that do not collide too bad with other events.

There will be a short on-screen preview of the video programme before each show. The video room serves other purposes over the day. Please understand that there might be some delays if an earlier event takes longer than anticipated. This is especially true for the art show on Saturday.

This is also the reason why we do not have the possibility to let people insert their own tapes during the day this time. The video room will be occupied by other events most of the day. We are sorry for this inconvenience.

If you think that sound and/or image need some readjustment during the show, please **DO NOT TOUCH THE EQUIPMENT ON YOUR OWN**. Please ask a person from the Eurofurence staff. Thank you!

## Thursday

- 20:00 **Small Soldiers (110 min)**
- 22:00 **Passion in the Desert (92 min)**
- 23:35 **Redwall (120 min)**  
(Episodes 1-4)

## Friday

- 20:00 **Antz (85 min)**
- 21:30 **Lion King 2: Simba's Pride (75 min)**  
(Widescreen Version + Extra Footage)
- 23:00 **The Princess Mononoke (133 min)**

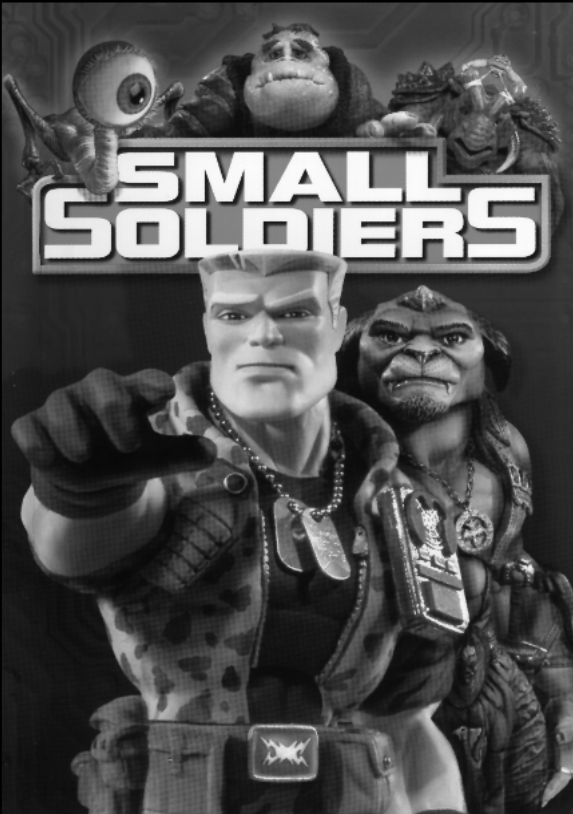
## Saturday

- 20:00 **A Rat's Tale (91 min)**
- 21:35 **Sirga, die Löwin (79 min)**
- 23:05 **Mouse Hunt (100 min)**
- 00:45 **A Bug's Life (95 min)**  
(With one extra set of out-takes)



Thursday 20:00 - Small Soldiers (110 minutes)

USA, 1998 - Language: English



*Starring Gregory Smith, Kirsten Dunst, David Cross, Jay Mohr and Denis Leary. Directed by Joe Dante. Written by Gavin Scott, Adam Rifkin, Ted Elliott & Terry Rossio. Produced by Michael Finnell and Colin Wilson.*

At the beginning of "Small Soldiers," a CEO watches a clip of a G.I. Joe-like action figure punching its way out of its cellophane-and-cardboard packaging. "Can they really do that?" The marketing exec shakes his head no. The boss explodes: "What if they could do what they do in the commercials?" That question is much on Hollywood's mind these days, first in Disney's groundbreaking computer-animation hit "Toy Story," and now in the chipper satire "Small Soldiers." In this new, decidedly more anarchic take on the theme, militaristic action-figure toys run amok. "Small Soldiers" plays unsettlingly with your sense of scale. One minute it reassures you that foot-high dolls can't possibly harm a real teenager and his family; the next, it's transforming those dolls into a lethal brigade of Green Beret-class commandos that you wouldn't want to encounter in a dark playroom. Listen for actors from "The Dirty Dozen" as the commandos, and from "Spinal Tap" as the Gorgonites, while teen queens Christina Ricci and Sarah Michelle Gellar voice an army of bloodthirsty Gwendy dolls.

Thursday 22:00 - Passion in the Desert (92 minutes)

USA, 1998 - Language: English



*Starring Ben Daniels, Michel Piccloi and Paul Meston. Directed by Lavinia Currier. Written by Lavinia Currier and Honore de Balzac. Produced by Emanuelle Castro and Lavinia Currier.*

"Passion in the Desert" is a unique tale of a stranded Napoleonic soldier (Ben Daniels) who, in the middle of the Sahara, stumbles upon and ultimately falls in love with a wild leopard. Based on a nineteenth century Honore de Balzac story of the same name, the film was written, directed and produced by Lavinia Currier, who began working on the project about seven years ago. In addition to coming up with funds and scouting exotic locales, Currier had a trainer purchase leopard cubs and raise them specifically for the film. Her diverse background includes theater irection, environmental work as well as directing a 1983 film called "Heart of the Garden." "Passion" was picked up by Fine Line, has been playing in limited release only, and is very hard to find on video.

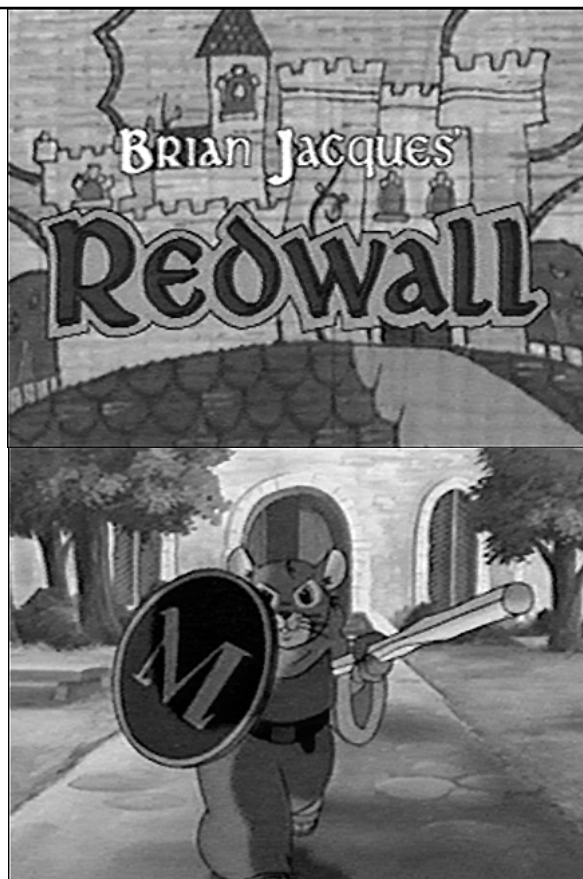
While in most films with wild cats the actors and animals appear together on screen, they never make physical contact. In *Passion in the Desert*, however, not only do man and beast touch, but the animal involved is the least predictable of all the big cats, with a short attention span, a deadly burst of speed and great sensitivity to change. As the film's animal trainer Rick Glassey states, "We didn't hold back on the information that leopards can do major damage and the fact that they don't care whether or not you're afraid of them. In the wrong circumstances, they'll kill you anyway."

**Thursday 23:35 - Redwall (120 minutes)***Canada, 1999 - Language: English*

This is a premiere in Europe! The Eurofurence Video Show is proud to present the "Teaser Preview" of the Redwall Television Series that was shown on Teletoon in May 99, consisting of the first four episodes.

The Redwall television series has been co-produced by Nelvana of Canada (65%) and Alphanim of France (35%). It is going to consist of 13 half hour episodes which recount the original *Redwall* story and remain faithful to the book. The original artwork used as models for the animators has been painted by Fangorn (aka Chris Baker), the artist who provided most of the book covers for the British editions. European style animation was used, similar to the television shows *Rupert* and *Babar* which are shown on CBS and Nickelodeon in the USA. The series will be released in Canada in the Fall of 1999 and in France the thirteen days just before Christmas 1999, one episode per day.

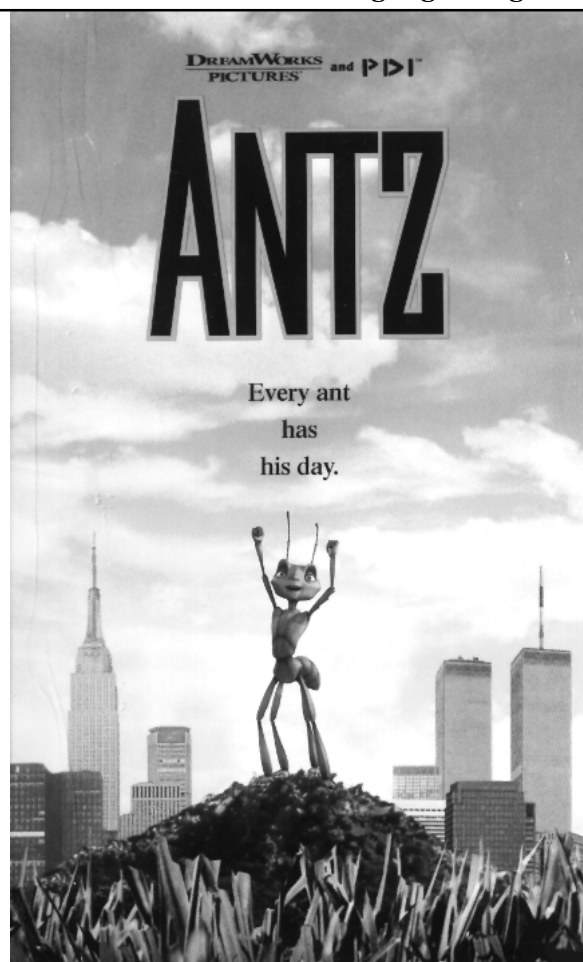
The story is about Matthias. He is an orphan living in Redwall Abbey. His family was killed by Cluney, the Scourge, a villainous rat who is again threatening to hurt all of the animals living at Redwall. But Matthias thinks he can beat Cluney! His Hero is Martin The Warrior, who was a great fighter long before Matthias was born, and he is determined to follow in his footsteps in order to save Redwall!

**Friday 20:00 - Antz (83 minutes)***USA, 1998 - Language: English*

*Starring Woody Allen, Sharon Stone, Gene Hackman, Sylvester Stallone, Danny Glover and Dan Aykroyd. Directed by Eric Darnell and Tim Johnson. Written by Todd Alcott and Chris & Paul Weitz. Produced by Brad Lewis, Aron Warner and Patty Wooton.*

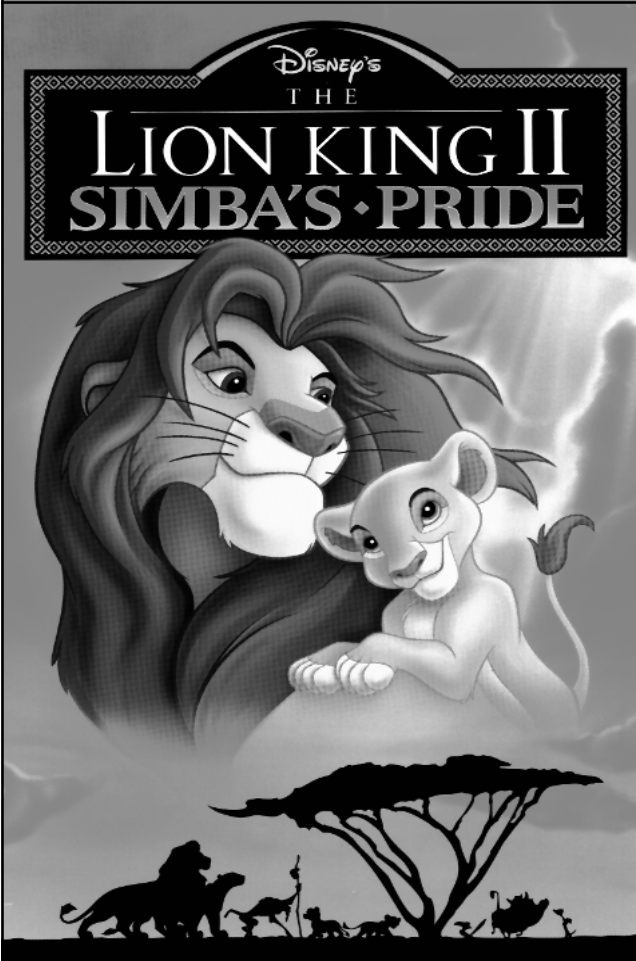
They work in colonies, slaving away anonymously, for no individual credit or recognition, each adding a tiny, imperceptible amount to the whole for the common good. No, not ants, but the army of Hollywood animators churning out such feature films as *Antz*.

*Antz* celebrates the triumph of the individual in its tale of a lowly worker ant named Z (voiced with trademark neurotic ambivalence by Woody Allen) who falls in love with a princess ant (Sharon Stone, drawn with an alluringly bumpy thorax). A maniacal army general/construction chief (Gene Hackman) sends the ants on a suicide mission against the termites. Z, who snuck into a parade of soldiers to get another glimpse of Princess Bala and didn't figure on being sent into battle, becomes the lone ant survivor, hailed as a hero. Emboldened, he reunites with Bala, but they fall down a chute and are spit out into the world. It is a world that contains the best and the worst, an idyllic garden of earthly ant delights called "Insectopia" as well as dangerous obstacles attached to unseen humans - an incendiary magnifying glass, a fly swatter and a sneaker.



Friday 21:30 - Simba's Pride (75 minutes)

USA, 1998 - Language: English



*Starring Mathew Broderick, Neve Campbell, Andy Dick, Robert Guillaume, Nathan Lane and James Earl Jones. Directed by Rob LaDuca and Darrel Rooney. Written by Flip Kobler and Cindy Marcus. Produced by Jeannine Roussel.*

Simba's Pride, one of the most highly anticipated sequels ever, made its world premiere exclusively on home video October 27, 1998. In production for more than two years at animation studios around the world, it tries to continue the legacy established by the #1 animated movie and best-selling video of all time, the Lion King. Simba is now the Lion King, and with the help of old friends Timon and Pumbaa, he must raise his spirited, headstrong young daughter Kiara. But the rift between the Pride Lands and the Outlands is deeper than ever, and while Kiara learns about her place in the Circle of Life, a young Outlander cub named Kovu is trained for a mission of vengeance. His trainer, Scar's widow Zira, who has her eyes on the Pride Land throne. But when the two young lions fall in love, everyone's plans begin to change. To foil Zira's sinister scheme, Kiara must convince her father that even an Outlander deserves the chance to do what is right, and that the Circle of Life will never be complete until the two feuding worlds come together as one. **We are showing the Widescreen Version plus a collection of deleted scenes which never made it into the final release.**

Friday 23:00 - Mononoke Hime (130 minutes) Japan, 1997 - Language: English Subtitles



*Starring Yôji Matsuda, Yuriko Ishida, Yûko Tanaka and Kaoru Kobayashi. Directed by Hayao Miyazaki. Written by Hayao Miyazaki. Produced by Toshio Suzuki.*

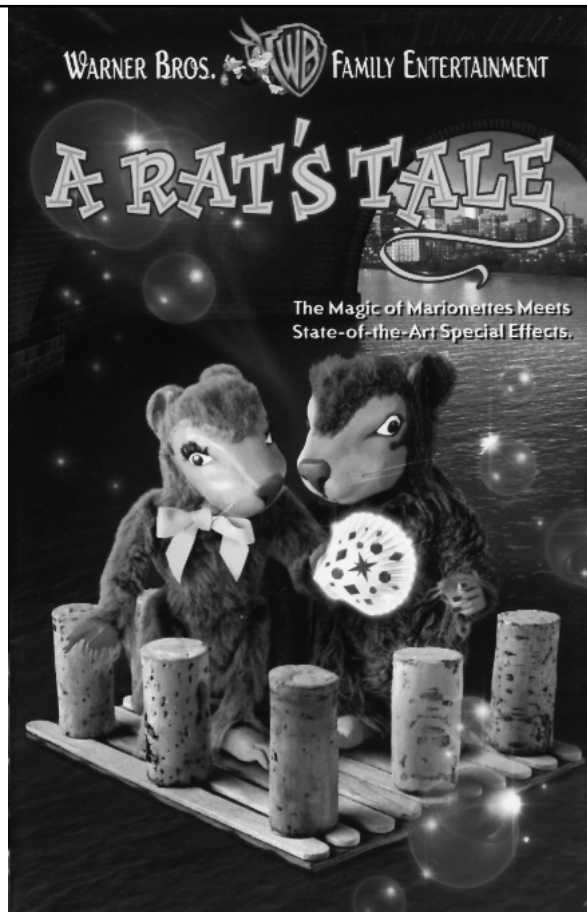
The story takes place in a confusing era, when the system of the medieval era had collapsed and society was moving towards the modern era. At that time, although the population had increased and many virgin forests had been cut down, there still remained many ancient forests which refused humans. In dark, black forests of evergreen trees, animals such as mountain dogs, boars, and deer were huge and wise, and could understand human language. They were fighting against humans who invaded their sanctuary, and were feared as Raging Gods. The protagonist is Ashitaka, a descendant of a Royal family of the people who had been defeated by the Yamato government and had been living in a hidden mountain village in Northeast region for hundreds of years. He was put under a curse of death by the Boar God who had become a Monster, called "Tatari God" (Curse God) out of anger and hatred. He started on a journey to solve the mystery of the curse, and in the Western country he visited, he was dragged into a heroic battle between the Raging Gods and humans.

**Saturday 20:00 - A Rat's Tale (91 minutes)**

**Germany, 1997 - Language: English**

*Starring Josef Ostendorf, Beverly D'Angelo, Lauren Hutton, Jerry Stiller and Steffen Wink. Directed by Michael F. Huse. Written by Werner Morgenrath, Peter Scheerbaum and Tor Seidler. Produced by Hans-Peter Clahsen and Christa-Maria Klein.*

Marionettes from the German puppet theater Augsburger Puppenkiste star in this ambitious film. Monty is a young cute rat in a rat world living beneath the streets of Manhattan. When exterminator Dollart gets a new lethal spray to kill all rodents, Monty, his friend Isabella and Jean-Paul Canalligator have to travel to magic land to make things right. Monty, an artist among sewer rats, meets and falls hard for classy uptown girl Isabella, and naturally her rich-rat parents are furious. Alas, their thwarted love takes a back seat to the exterminating habits of Dollart, who looks like a cross between Boss Hogg and Larry Stooze and has an arsenal of rat poison aimed at Monty and friends. Based on the award-winning children's book, *A Rat's Tale* has a lot of charming aspects, and even made the jump from Germany to theaters in the US. It's a strange but charming mixture, combining vintage puppeteer work (there were no attempts to hide the marionette strings) with state of the art CGI special effects. The "Augsburger Puppenkiste" has a tradition that goes back, far into the history of German television, but is little known elsewhere.



**Saturday 21:35 - Sirga, die Löwin (79 minutes)**

**France, 1995 - Language: German**

*Starring Salif Keita, Mathurin Sinze, Sophie-Véronique Toué Tagbé, Wéré Wéré Liking and Souleyman Koli. Directed by Patrick Grandperret. Written by Catherine K. Galode and Rene Guillot. Produced by Luc Besson, Patrick Grandperret and Yannick Bernarde.*

French critics were enthusiastic about the charm of this adventure in Africa, directed by Patrick Grandperret against all rules of Disneyism. For more than one year he took his team the Ivory Coast, Zimbabwe, Niger and Morocco to transfer Rene Guillot's classic children's book "Sierra la Lionne" to the big screen. The effort has paid off: In breathtaking photography, his epic shows a mystic Africa, in which the bond between humankind and nature is still intact. Lena, the narrator, tells her story about the adventures of the chief's son, Oule, and Sirga the lioness, who are born on the same day, grow up like brother and sister, and share the secrets of the savannah. One day, slave traders raid Oule's village, the traits the lioness has taught him are put to a challenge ...

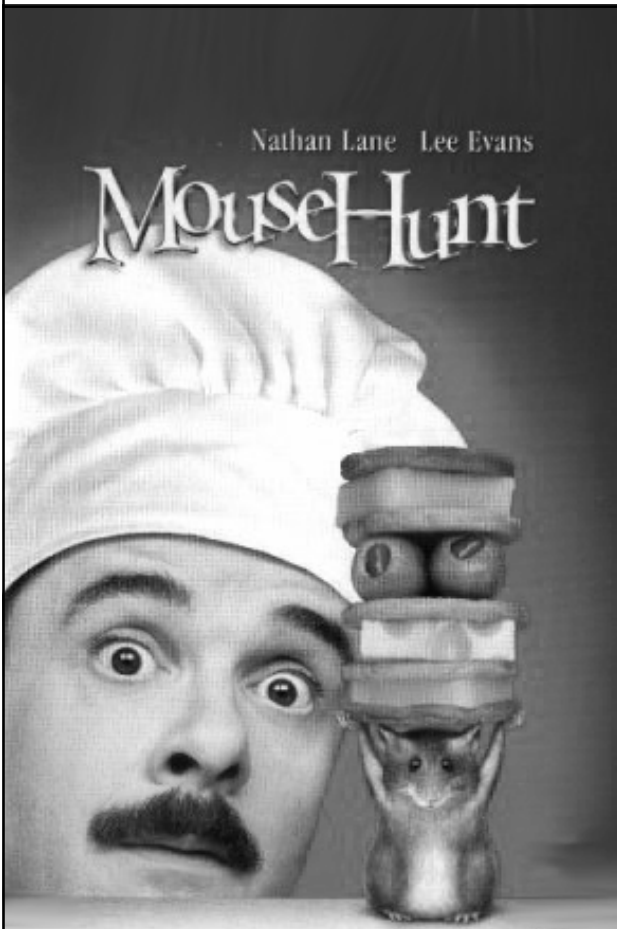
Through poetry and naturalness, the movie avoids the pungent sweetness, which often drives up the audience's blood sugar level above the pain threshold nowadays. Unfortunately, this film has never been shown anywhere outside of France or Germany, so we are showing the German dub, hoping the images will speak for themselves.





Saturday 23:05 - Mouse Hunt (99 minutes)

USA, 1997 - Language: English



*Starring Nathan Lane, Lee Evans, Vicky Lewis, Christopher Walken. Directed by Gore Verbinski. Written by Adam Rifkin. Produced by Bruce Cohen, Tony Ludwig and Alan Riche*

Upon the death of their father, down-on-their-luck brothers Ernie and Lars Smuntz are surprised to learn that their inheritance is a crumbling, old mansion that both assume is worthless. But they couldn't be more wrong. In fact, the dilapidated homestead is an architectural masterpiece and worth millions.

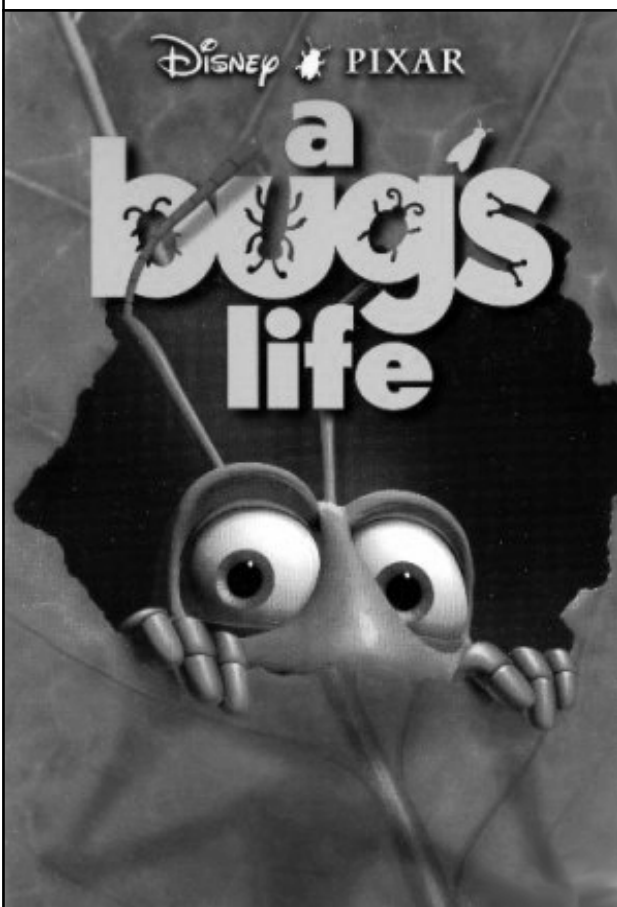
But just as the hapless Smuntzes are all set to cash in, they discover there's one very small problem keeping them from life on Easy Street: the house is occupied by a tenacious mouse, who has no intention of vacating the premises. Two grown men versus one teensy, weensy mouse. It's no contest... for the mouse.

From ferocious feline to deranged exterminator... the only thing Ernie and Lars might catch in their "better mousetrap" is themselves. The brothers are about to learn that "Are you a man or a mouse?" is a trick question as they engage in a battle of wills with the wily little rodent that may just bring down the house.

"Mouse Hunt" is tasteless, it's anarchic, it's hilarious, and it's furry!

Saturday 0:45 - A Bug's Life (95 minutes)

USA, 1998 - Language: English



*Starring Dave Foley, Kevin Spacey, Julia-Louis-Dreyfuss and Hayden Panettiere. Directed by John Lasseter and Andrew Stanton. Written by John Lasseter, Andrew Stanton and Joe Ranft. Produced by Darla K. Anderson and Kevin Reher.*

As ants struggle to gather morsels of food, a leaf falls and interrupts their procession. "I'm lost!" screams a worker in panic. "Where's the line?" Rescue workers quickly arrive: "We are going around to the left!" The harvest continues. "This is nothing compared to the twig of '93," an ant observes.

"A Bug's Life" contains enormous promise for a new kind of storytelling, freed from reality and gravity, but although the Japanese have exploited that freedom of animation, too many American feature cartoons follow the Disney formula of plucky young heroes and heroines and comic sidekicks. It's a formula that has produced wonderful movies. But the Pixar computer animation studio, a Disney co-producer, broke new ground with "Toy Story" in 1995, and now with "A Bug's Life," it runs free. The story, about an ant colony that frees itself from slavery to grasshoppers, is similar in some ways to the other big animated release in autumn '98, "Antz," but it's aimed at a broader audience and lacks the in-jokes.



